

## EPA ACTIONS

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DEBORAH PRYCE, CHAIRMAN

# EPA Actions to Minimize or Prevent Supply Disruptions

*The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is taking steps to minimize or prevent supply disruptions in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. These steps include the early use of winter gasoline and the use of diesel fuel that exceeds the sulfur standard.*

## Taking Steps to Minimize or Prevent Supply Disruptions

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has decided to take the following actions to minimize or prevent supply disruptions of gasoline and diesel fuel:

### Early Use of Winter Gasoline

- The Clean Air Act and EPA's regulations require the use of a different type of gasoline during summer months in order to limit pollution. These requirements usually end on September 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.
- In order to increase the supply of gasoline and minimize potential supply disruptions caused by Hurricane Katrina, the EPA waived the requirement to sell summer gasoline, effective August 31<sup>st</sup>, throughout the nation.

### Use of Diesel Fuel that Exceeds the Sulfur Standard

- The Clean Air Act and additional regulations require motor vehicle diesel fuel to have a sulfur content that does not exceed 500 parts per million (ppm) and be free of visible evidence of red dye.
- In order to increase the supply of motor vehicle diesel fuel, the EPA will temporarily allow regulated parties to supply fuel that has a greater sulfur content than 500 ppm with visible evidence of red dye. The waiver will continue through September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Retail outlets or wholesale purchaser-consumers that receive fuel that does not comply with the regulations may continue selling or dispensing this fuel after September 15<sup>th</sup> until their supplies are depleted.

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